

**Commissioner's Charges for the Accountability Policy Advisory Committee (APAC)  
and the Accountability Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC)**

**Purpose**

The committees will consider complex, technical issues related to accountability in order to develop recommendations that ensure that Texas achieves the goals of the accountability system for 2013 and beyond.

**Scope of Work**

The committees will be responsible for recommendations regarding the issuance of “acceptable/unacceptable” ratings; the recognized/exemplary distinction designation ratings; and the “Top 25%” campus distinction designations. The committees will also develop recommendations that allow Texas to align the state and federal accountability systems to the greatest extent possible.

Charges for the committees do not include:

- Distinction designations for academic achievement, fine arts, physical education, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce Development, and second language acquisition.
- The Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System (PBMAS) or Program Monitoring and Interventions (PMI) although decisions made for the state accountability system will inform the development of these systems.
- The design and content of statutorily-required performance reports.
- State assessment program, graduation, or curriculum policies.
- Specific details of certain components needed for implementation of the system (e.g., campus pairing; appeals process; small numbers analysis).

**Ground Rules**

1. State accountability recommendations must be in compliance with agency interpretation of statute.
2. AYP recommendations must be in compliance with federal regulations.
3. Assume the state assessment program and state accountability system for 2013 and 2014 will be implemented under statute that is currently in effect.
4. To the extent possible, recommendations should cover the current rating year as well as the subsequent two years.

**ATAC Member Duties**

Members of the ATAC are Texas public school educators who will work with TEA staff and national experts to develop recommendations or options related to the new accountability system. ATAC members will participate in one or more small work groups formed around specific topics. Members will also solicit comment on committee issues from peers within their geographic region.

**APAC Member Duties**

The APAC will consist of educators representing campuses, school districts, and education service centers; legislative representatives; business and community leaders; representatives of higher education; and parents of children attending Texas public schools. In addition to providing guidance during the development process, the APAC will review final proposals from the ATAC and provide its responses to these proposals to the commissioner of education. The commissioner will make final accountability decisions in spring 2013.